

Writing

Course number & Code: **Najd 128**

Course title: **Writing I** (Level One) Contact hours: 4

Textbook: Interactions 1, Middle East Gold Edition

Content and Objectives

Writing I is a pre-intermediate course designed to introduce students to paragraph structure and organization, i.e., topic sentence, supporting details, and concluding sentence. It is also designed to teach students to write cohesive and coherent paragraphs on specific topics, using language appropriate to each topic. The paragraphs are of the following types: descriptive, narrative, expository, classificatory, and instructional.

Students are also trained to write personal and informal letters. In addition, the course introduces and reviews features of grammar, style and cohesion, which serve to unify a paragraph.

Skills and strategies

Creating graphic organizer and Idea Map

Writing a plot diagram and Venn diagram

Selecting relevant ideas and writing a correct topic sentence and concluding sentence.

Grouping details and Ordering Information from general to specific

Drafting

Editing for organization and form

Redrafting

Reviewing

Writing a final edited paragraph

Sub Skills and Strategies

1. Construction of simple sentence.
2. Construction of Complex sentence
3. Construction of compound sentence
4. Avoiding sentence fragments and run-on sentences
5. The formation of questions
6. The appropriate usage of the conjunctions and, so, but and also.
7. Developing the reader's interest by the introduction of relevant and significant details.
8. Appropriate use of articles, correct verb forms and transitions
9. Use of count and non-count nouns.
10. Avoiding noun repetition.
11. Ordering information.
12. Appropriate use of topic sentences.
13. Appropriate use of concluding sentences.
14. Developing cohesion and coherence

Course Content

Chapter One

Topic: Academic Life Around the World

Writing Product: A Descriptive paragraph about a classmate.

Organizing Skills: Interviewing a classmate, Ordering information in a paragraph. Using a Graphic organizer, writing topic sentences

Grammar: Simple past tense

Use of connectors: e.g. and, also, but, so, and so.

Chapter Two

Topic: Experiencing Nature

Writing Product: A descriptive paragraph about a painting

Organizing Skills: Ordering information from general to specific, Grouping details in spatial order

Grammar: Adjectives, prepositional phrases, present continuous, articles, pronouns

Use of articles and pronouns in and across sentences

Chapter Three

Topic: Living to Eat or Eating to Live

Writing Product: A Descriptive paragraph about holiday foods

Organizing Skills: Free writing, Ordering information from general to specific, using a graphic organizer to determine levels of detail, writing topic sentences

Grammar: Use of count and non-count nouns, using appositives, giving examples with such as spelling 3rd person singular verbs

Chapter Four

Topic: In the Community

Writing Product: Informative Informal Letter to a friend

Organizing Skills: Paragraph organization in a letter, using a graphic organizer to write directions

Grammar: Simple present and future with “going to”

Use of prepositions for place, direction and distance

Using there, it and they

Midterm test I

Chapter Five

Topic: Home

Writing Product: Autobiographical narration

Organizing Skills: Using a time line to organize information, limiting information, writing a topic sentence

Grammar: Using the past tense, combining sentences with because, using when, before, after and as soon as.

Chapter Six

Topic: Cultures of the World

Writing Product: The conclusion of a folktale narrative

Organizing Skills: Reading and discussing a folktale, using a plot diagram, understanding the elements of a story.

Grammar: Using when and while clause, using time words like when, while, before, after, then and as soon as

Chapter Seven

Topic: Health

Writing Product: An Informational paragraph about health treatments

Organizing Skills: Making an idea map, writing a topic sentence and supporting sentences in a paragraph

Grammar: Using restrictive clauses, using transitional expressions like in addition, however, for example, giving reason with because and infinitives of purpose.

Midterm test II

Chapter Ten

Topic: Sports

Writing Product: A paragraph comparing two sports

Organizing Skills: Using a Venn Diagram, using a comparison table, writing topic and concluding sentences

Grammar: Using comparative adjectives and adverbs, using the word both to write similarities and using but and however to write about differences.

Final Exam

Note 1: It is worth stressing that the reading and writing chapters in *Interactions I* are very much interrelated. The topics covered in the selected chapters in both courses are almost the same. It is hoped that the two courses feed into each other and contribute to the building up of the students' vocabulary, mastery of grammar, enhancement of writing style, and developing sophisticated reading strategies.

Note 2: Students are encouraged to draft and re-draft their paragraphs. They are encouraged to engage in peer-review tasks in class and outside class. Teachers may also wish to give students a small dictation from time to time in order to draw their attention to the importance of spelling. The grammar exercises and the small model paragraphs provided in the book for writing are dealt with in detail.